

Appl. N . : 09/724,524
Filed : November 27, 2000

19. (New) The method of claim 17, wherein said neurotrophin is selected from the group consisting of NGF, BDNF/Neurotrophin-2, NT-3, and NT-4/5.

REMARKS

In the Office Action, the Examiner Restricted the Claims to two distinct and independent inventions, identified as Groups I and II. Group I (Claims 1-2) is characterized as being directed to polypeptides, and Group II (Claims 3-5) is characterized by nucleic acid molecules.

As the Examiner is aware, this application is one member of an extensive family of related applications. Embodiments of the Invention recited in the claims originally filed in this case have been issued or are pending in other applications. Due to a clerical oversight, a more suitable claim set was not included at the time of filing of the present application.

Applicants respectfully request that the Examiner consider and enter the new claims provided in this Amendment. All of these new claims are directed towards diagnostic methods, and are not likely to require restriction to multiple inventions. These claims are supported by the Specification, and do not constitute new matter.

If this Amendment is not agreeable, the Examiner is encouraged to telephone the Applicants to discuss the matter in order to advance the prosecution of this application and new claims. The Applicants thank the Examiner for his consideration.

Please charge any additional fees, including any fees for additional extension of time, or credit overpayment to Deposit Account No. 11-1410.

Respectfully submitted,

KNOBBE, MARTENS, OLSON & BEAR, LLP

Dated: February 1, 2002

By: [Signature]

Ginger R. Dreger
Registration No. 33,055
Attorney of Record
620 Newport Center Drive
Sixteenth Floor
Newport Beach, CA 92660
(415) 954-4114